TYPHOON VICTOR (13W)

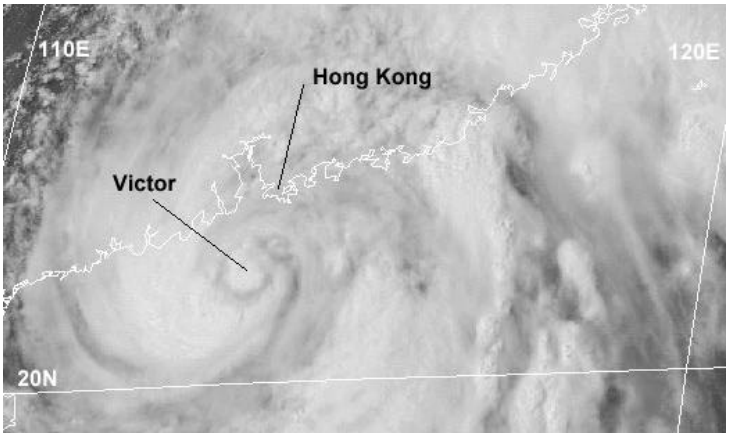
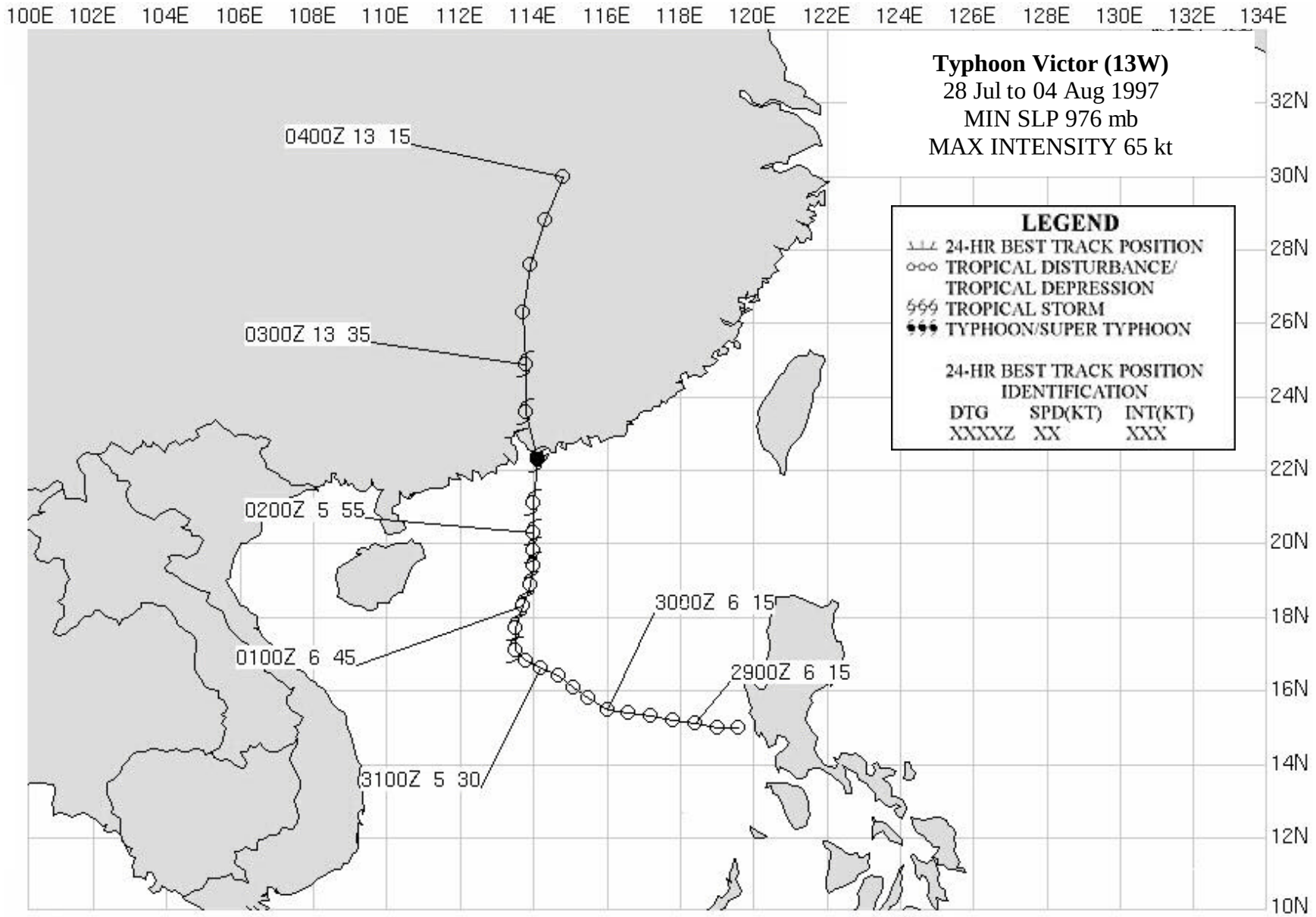


Figure 3-13-1 Typhoon Victor (13W) at 020634Z August, just prior to landfall (GMS 5 visible imagery).

The topical disturbance that became Typhoon Victor (13W) initially formed around 28 July, developing from an area of convection moving west-northwestward within the monsoon trough, just west of Luzon. Initially, moderate upper-level wind shear kept the deep convection to the south of the low-level circulation center. The disturbance was first noted on the Significant Tropical Weather Advisory (ABPW) at 0600Z on 30 July. The first warning on Tropical Depression 13W was issued at 1800Z the same day (A TCFA was not issued). TD 13W was initially steered by a mid-level ridge located to its southeast, resulting in a northward track. At 1200Z on 31 July, the system was upgraded to a tropical storm. Victor continued tracking northward, intensifying slowly under moderate vertical wind shear. By 0600Z on 2 August the deep convection consolidated over the low-level circulation center and intensification became more rapid. Victor reached its peak intensity of 65 knots just prior to making landfall at 1200Z on 2 August near Hong Kong (Figure 3-13-1). The cyclone weakened over land as it accelerated and tracked northward over southern China. By 4 August, the remnants of Victor merged with a frontal boundary west of Shanghai.

Although originally classified as a tropical storm, Victor was upgraded to a minimal strength typhoon in post analysis, based on synoptic data recorded as it made landfall. Published press reports attributed one death and over 30 injuries in Hong Kong to Victor. In Guangzhou Province, China, heavy flooding left 49 dead and 12,000 homes destroyed.


100E 102E 104E 106E 108E 110E 112E 114E 116E 118E 120E 122E 124E 126E 128E 130E 132E 134E
32N
30N
28N
26N
24N
22N
20N
18N
16N
14N
12N
10N
Typhoon Victor (13W)
28 Jul to 04 Aug 1997
MIN SLP 976 mb
MAX INTENSITY 65 kt
LEGEND
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION
TROPICAL DISTURBANCE/ TROPICAL DEPRESSION
TROPICAL STORM
TYPHOON/SUPER TYPHOON
24-HR BEST TRACK POSITION IDENTIFICATION
DTG SPD(KT) INT(KT)
XXXXZ XX XXX
0400Z 13 15
0300Z 13 35
0200Z 5 55
3000Z 6 15
2900Z 6 15
0100Z 6 45
3100Z 5 30